



United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 9, San Francisco, California

March 2009

# ***Tribal Program Newsletter***

## **Meetings and Conferences**



### **Sponsor: Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency**

Apr 14-16	All Life Depends on a Healthy Mother Earth	Window Rock, AZ	Kristina Casuse, 928-871-7692 or <a href="mailto:kristinamcasuse@yahoo.com">kristinamcasuse@yahoo.com</a>
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### **Sponsor: Environmental Protection Agency**

 Apr 28-30	Regional Tribal Operating Committee (RTOC)	Oakland, CA	Tina Davis, 415-972-3784 or <a href="mailto:davis.tina@epa.gov">davis.tina@epa.gov</a>
Apr 27-30	Freshwater Spills Symposium	St. Louis, MO	<a href="http://www.epa.gov/emergencies/content/fss/index.htm">http://www.epa.gov/emergencies/content/fss/index.htm</a>

For questions about EPA's oil pollution prevention regulations, please contact EPA's Superfund, TRI, EPCRA, RMP & Oil Information Center Toll Free 800-424-9346 or 800-553-7672 -- Toll Free TDD

### **Sponsor: Native Ecology**

Mar 12-13	Tribal Pesticide Program Council	Davis, CA	Lillian A. Wilmore, 617-232-5742 or e-mail <a href="mailto:naecology@aol.com">naecology@aol.com</a>
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### **Sponsor: Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians**

Mar 16-18	Tribal Energy Conference and Energy Trade Fair	Dallas, TX	<a href="http://www.atntribes.org/">http://www.atntribes.org/</a>
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### **Sponsor: National Environmental Partnership**

May 4-7	Harnessing the Power of Collaboration	San Francisco, CA	<a href="http://www.environmentalSummit.org/">http://www.environmentalSummit.org/</a> 443-904-0752
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## **Trainings and Workshops**

### **Sponsor: Environmental Protection Agency**

Mar 10-12	GAP Training	San Francisco, CA	Timothy Grant, 415-972-2783 <a href="mailto:grant.timothy@epa.gov">grant.timothy@epa.gov</a>
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**Sponsor: Coalition for American Indians in Computing, Humboldt State University (HSU)**

Jul 11-25 deadline May 1	Computer Training in Gaming, digital media, Geographic Information System (GIS)	Arcata, CA	<a href="http://humboldt.edu/~caic">http://humboldt.edu/~caic</a> , or call 707-826-3338
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This all-expenses-paid, two-week camp is recruiting in-coming 11th and 12th grade self-identified Native American students. The camp will explore computer gaming, geographic information systems, digital media, and computerized Native language preservation with HSU Computing Science Department Professors.

**Sponsor: Nielsen Field School**

Mar 23-27	The Complete Ground Water Monitoring Field Course	San Diego, CA	See information below
Mar 25-27	The Complete Ground Water Sampling Field Course	San Diego, CA	See information below
Mar 23-24	Ground Water Monitoring Well Design, Construction and Development	San Diego, CA	See information below
Mar 30-31	The Complete Surface Water & Sediment Sampling Field Course	San Diego, CA	See information below

These courses are specifically designed to meet the environmental training needs of: environmental consultants, contractors, laboratory staff, and government agency environmental staff: federal, state, regional, county, city, tribal industry environmental staff. For more information email the school at [info@envirofieldschool.com](mailto:info@envirofieldschool.com), call 740-965-5026 or visit their Web site at [www.envirofieldschool.com](http://www.envirofieldschool.com).

**Sponsor: Princeton Groundwater, Inc.**

Mar 2-6	The Groundwater Pollution and Hydrology Course	San Francisco, CA	813-964-0800 or email <a href="mailto:info@princeton-groundwater.com">info@princeton-groundwater.com</a>
Apr 27-May 1	The Remediation Course	Las Vegas, NV	813-964-0800 or email <a href="mailto:info@princeton-groundwater.com">info@princeton-groundwater.com</a>

**Sponsor: Inter Tribal Council of California**

Mar 3-5	Water Distribution, Level 1	Phoenix, AZ	602-258-1825 or <a href="http://www.itcaonline.com">www.itcaonline.com</a>
Mar 16-20	Water Distribution, Level 2	Phoenix, AZ	602-258-1825 or <a href="http://www.itcaonline.com">www.itcaonline.com</a>
Mar 24-27	Wastewater Collection and Small Water Treatment	Phoenix, AZ	602-258-1825 or <a href="http://www.itcaonline.com">www.itcaonline.com</a>
Apr 13-17	Water Treatment, Level 2	Phoenix, AZ	602-258-1825 or <a href="http://www.itcaonline.com">www.itcaonline.com</a>

**Sponsor: Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)**

Jun 1-26	Water Resources Technician Training	Las Cruces, NM	Mo Baloch, 202-208-6042
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**Sponsor: EPA National Enforcement Training Institute (NETI)**

NETI is a part of the Office of Compliance, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance, US EPA. If you have questions about NETI, please contact Zena Aldridge at [aldridge.zena@epa.gov](mailto:aldridge.zena@epa.gov) or 740-773-4039. For a copy of the monthly update of all the upcoming environmental enforcement courses, go to [www.netionline.com](http://www.netionline.com)

**Sponsor: Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP)**

ITEP's American Indian Air Quality Training Program has released the 2009 training catalog that includes detailed descriptions of ITEP air quality training courses, activities and services. To view the schedule, go to: <http://www4.nau.edu/itep/trainings/aiaqtp.asp> or contact Lydia Scheer, at [Lydia.Scheer@nau.edu](mailto:Lydia.Scheer@nau.edu), or 928-523-6887 or visit: <http://www4.nau.edu/itep/trainings/aiaqtp.asp>

**Drinking Water Training for Tribes and Tribal Operators**

The following Web site presents a list of training opportunities that may be of interest to tribes and tribal operators. <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/tribal/training.html>. Click on your region to learn about training opportunities that are available in the upcoming months. For more information, email [betanzo.elin@epa.gov](mailto:betanzo.elin@epa.gov)

## **Grants and Loans**

**Grants.gov**

Funding from the Tribal Energy Program is through a competitive process. Each funding opportunity will include instructions on how to apply, application content, and the criteria by which applications will be selected for funding. Only applications submitted through Grants.gov can be considered for awards. To submit an application, you must complete the one-time registration process. As the registration process in Grants.gov may take 21 days or more to complete and must take place prior to submitting an application, applicants are encouraged to begin the process at least three weeks before the application due date. See <http://www.grants.gov/GetStarted>. Questions regarding Grants.gov should be directed to the Grants.gov Customer Support Center between 7am and 9pm EDT at 1-800-518-4726 (1-800-518-GRANTS) or at [support@grants.gov](mailto:support@grants.gov).

**Efficiency and Renewables in Indian Country**

DOE's Tribal Energy Program is currently seeking applications for funding from federally recognized tribes, tribal consortia, Alaska Native villages or regional or village corporations, and Tribal Energy Resource Development Organizations. Eligible projects: (1) installation of efficiency improvements to existing tribally owned buildings -including energy efficiency upgrades and renewable energy systems for building heating or cooling, (2) preconstruction activities for renewable energy projects, and (3) construction of renewable energy systems for power production. For more information, contact Pamela Brodie at [pamela.brodie@go.doe.gov](mailto:pamela.brodie@go.doe.gov) or go to: <https://e-center.doe.gov/iips/faopor.nsf/UNID/BD6B9E13038A34358525754B007FE312?OpenDocument>. The deadline is April 1.

**U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)****Smart Growth Implementation Assistance 2009 Request for Applications (RFA)**

EPA's Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation is seeking applications for technical assistance from communities that want to incorporate smart growth in their future development to meet environmental and other community goals. Eligible entities are tribal, local, regional and state governments, and nonprofit organizations that have a demonstrated partnership with a governmental entity. EPA is soliciting applications for assistance with either policy analysis or public participatory processes. Selected communities or states will receive assistance in the form of a multi-day visit from a team of experts organized by EPA and other national partners to work with local leaders. EPA plans to assist three to five communities over a period of twelve months. The Agency anticipates announcing the

selected communities in fall of 2009. Applications are due at 5:00 pm EST, April 23. For more information and application materials, visit [http://epa.gov/smartgrowth/2009\\_sgia\\_rfa.htm](http://epa.gov/smartgrowth/2009_sgia_rfa.htm).



#### **Tribal Resource Conservation Funds (TRCF) and Resource Conservation Funds (RCF)**

Region 9 seeks projects that address solid waste reduction and management, and support innovative ideas with the goal of fostering positive change. Under the TRCF, the Region anticipates awarding potentially 3-5 grants or cooperative agreements. Under the RCF, the Region anticipates potentially awarding 2-4 grants or cooperative agreements. Final funding decision for both solicitations will be made by April 20. For more information, contact Heather White, 415-972-3384 or [white.heather@epa.gov](mailto:white.heather@epa.gov).

#### **Community Action for a Renewed Environment (CARE) Program**

Around \$3 million will be available in 2009 to support community-based partnerships to reduce pollution at the local level through the CARE program. The Request for Proposals is now available on-line at: [http://www.epa.gov/air/grants\\_funding.html#0902](http://www.epa.gov/air/grants_funding.html#0902). This year the application time line is almost 3 months and the deadline is March 16. Eligible applicants include county and local governments, tribes, non-profit organizations and universities. Additional information about the CARE program, previous cooperative agreement recipients, and applying for the 2009 grants is available at: <http://www.epa.gov/care>

#### **Brownfields Training, Research and Technical Assistance Grants**

EPA is providing more than \$1.5 million for ten Brownfields Training, Research and Technical Assistance Grants. Funding will provide information, training, tools, and technical assistance to brownfields stakeholders to support brownfields assessment, cleanup, and revitalization. Each assistance project will receive between \$100,000 and \$150,000 in annual funding for up to five years. For more information, visit the EPA Brownfields Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/brownfields>

#### **EPA Region 9 Water Infrastructure Loans Available to Tribes**

The Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) loans are innovative methods of financing a range of water quality and safe drinking water projects. Under the CWSRF & DWSRF programs, EPA Region 9 provides grants or "seed money" to the states of Arizona, California, Hawaii and Nevada to capitalize individual state CWSRF and DWSRF loan funds. The states, in turn, make loans to communities and individuals for high-priority water quality and drinking water activities. Tribes are also eligible to receive CWSRF and DWSRF loans from the states. The programs are managed by the states, and loans or other types of assistance for water quality and drinking water projects are distributed according to each state's program and priorities. Eligible projects under the DWSRF include installation and replacement of failing treatment facilities, eligible storage facilities and transmission and distribution systems. Projects to consolidate water supplies may also be eligible. CWSRF loans are used to build or improve wastewater treatment plants, to develop or implement estuary improvement projects, and to implement nonpoint source pollution control activities. For more state-specific information about the CWSRF and DWSRF programs, visit the EPA, Region 9 Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/region09/water>

#### **Funding Sources for Communities**

A grants list of the updated version to the Funding Sources for Communities matrix can be viewed by going to the following Web address: <http://www.epa.gov/region09/funding/index.html>. For more information, contact Jessica Counts-Arnold/R9/USEPA/US@EPA or 415-972-3288.

## Department of Agricultural (USDA)

### **Sponsor: USDA Rural Development:**

The objectives of the Solid Waste Management Grant Program are to (a) reduce or eliminate pollution of water resources in rural areas and (b) improve planning and management of solid waste sites in rural areas. Rural areas are defined as any area not in a city or town with a population in excess of 10,000, according to the latest decennial census of the United States. Tribes, academic institutions and nonprofits are eligible. The grant focuses on landfill assistance as well as helping communities reduce the solid waste stream. For more information go to: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/SWMG.htm>

## Other Available Grants



### **Communities Creating Health Environments (CCHE)**

CCHE is a National Program Office of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation under the leadership of The Praxis Project. The Praxis Project is a national, nonprofit organization that builds partnerships with local groups to influence policymaking that addresses the underlying, systemic causes of community problems. For more information on other funding initiatives of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and its goal of reversing the childhood obesity epidemic by 2015, please visit them on the web [www.rwjf.org](http://www.rwjf.org). CCHE will provide funding and technical assistance for up to ten local community organizing groups and indigenous nations with grants of up to \$250,000 over three years. Youth led organizing groups in communities of color are strongly encouraged to apply. For more information on the Call for Proposals or to become a part of CCHE, go to [www.ccheonline.org](http://www.ccheonline.org) where you can download the Call for Proposals, sign up for information sessions and more!



### **Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Program**

The CWSRF program will be hosting public workshops throughout the state to provide more information on low-cost funding options for water quality and wastewater projects. For questions and additional information, contact Ms. Christine White, 916-341-5795, or [cwhite@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:cwhite@waterboards.ca.gov)

### **The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) and National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)**

NIEHS and NIOSH are soliciting research applications designed to bring together community members and environmental and occupational health researchers to investigate the potential health risks of environmental and occupational exposures that are of concern to the community. Research will focus on environmental or occupational agents known or strongly suspected to be a significant environmental public health issue by community members but lacking basic information on exposure levels, sources of exposure, or potential health effects. An education, outreach, prevention or intervention program(s) also must be developed to translate and disseminate research findings to relevant audiences to inform them about the potential health burden(s) associated with environmental or occupational agents in their community. Applicants may request a project period of up to four years and a budget for direct costs of up to \$225,000 per year. The NIEHS intends to commit \$2 million in FY2009 to fund five to seven new grants; NIOSH intends to commit \$500,000 in FY2009 to fund one to two new grants. Applications are due April 1. For more information, contact Caroline H. Dilworth, [dilworthch@niehs.nih.gov](mailto:dilworthch@niehs.nih.gov) or Bernadine Kuchinski, [BKuchinski@cdc.gov](mailto:BKuchinski@cdc.gov) or go to <http://list.niehs.nih.gov/mailman/listinfo/niehs-newslist> or <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-ES-09-001.html>

### **Section 184 Loan Guarantee Program for Native Americans and Alaska Natives**

The [Section 184 Indian Home Loan Guarantee Program](#) is a mortgage product specifically for American Indian and Alaska Native families, tribes, Alaska Villages or tribally designated housing entities. Congress established this program in 1992 to facilitate homeownership in Native American communities. With Section 184 financing a tribe can get into a home with a low down payment, no

mortgage insurance and flexible underwriting. For more information go to the following Web site: [www.hud.gov/offices/pih/ih/homeownership/184](http://www.hud.gov/offices/pih/ih/homeownership/184)

### **Economic Development**

The U.S. Department of Commerce requests proposals for Economic Development Assistance Grants in the following program areas: Public Works, Planning, Local Technical Assistance, and Economic Adjustment Assistance. Proposals accepted through September 30. For more information, go to: <http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?&mode=VIEW&flag2006=false&opId=42952>.

### **Middle School Sustainability Challenge**

The Siemens Foundation invites middle school students to participate in the We Can Change the World Challenge. Through this national sustainability educational initiative, students are challenged to create sustainable, reproducible environmental improvements in their local communities. Awards include, but are not limited to, Savings Bonds, TV appearances, cameras, and travel. Responses are due on March 15. For more information, go to: <http://www.wecanchange.com/about-challenge/challenge-description/>

### **Projects on Tribal Lands**

The Tribal Energy Program supports a variety of energy-related projects on tribal lands. Through these projects, tribes have built the institutional capacity to manage their energy needs, assessed the feasibility of energy efficiency and renewable energy installations, and have demonstrated the viability of installing renewable energy systems on tribal lands. To learn more about the Tribal Energy Program, or for additional information about a particular project, contact the [DOE project officer](#) or go to: <http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/tribalenergy/projects.cfm>.

### **Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) Ecosystem Restoration on Agricultural Lands (ERAL)**

The WCB now has funding for grants specific to ERAL. Under Proposition 84 the WCB received \$5 million dollars to "Assist Farmers in Integrating Agricultural Activities with Ecosystem Restoration and Wildlife Protection". Eligible funding applicants include agricultural and conservation related non-profit groups, along with public entities involved in working with private agricultural land owners. The types of projects to be funded are restoration and enhancement projects that provide long-term, durable habitat benefits to wildlife on working agricultural lands, with a special focus on private farms. Additional information regarding how to apply for these funds, including project selection and time-lines, are available on the WCB's Web page. [http://www.wcb.ca.gov/Pages/eral\\_project.asp](http://www.wcb.ca.gov/Pages/eral_project.asp)

### **California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB)**

The Farm and Ranch Solid Waste Cleanup and Abatement Grant Programs provide funding from CIWMB for cleanup of illegal solid waste sites on farm or ranch property. Grants are limited to \$50,000 per cleanup or abatement project with a limit of \$200,000 per year for each eligible applicant. Only cities, counties, resource conservation districts and Native American tribes may apply. There are no specific filing dates; grant applications are accepted continuously and reviewed on a quarterly basis. General information and an application package are available on Web site: <http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov> or by calling 916-341-6316.

### **California Bay-Delta Authority Science Grants**

This program seeks to invest in projects that develop new knowledge about how water use and management activities interact with and affect key aquatic species and environmental processes across spatial and temporal scales. The geographic areas of interest are the San Francisco Bay Estuary and the Bay-Delta System. To access detailed information about this opportunity, visit: <http://www.solicitation.calwater.ca.gov> or call the Cal Water Helpline at 877-408-9310.

### **California Tribal Homeland Security Grant Program (CTHSGP)**

CTHSGP is supported by a tribal association of 46 tribes throughout California. The proposed program is designed to promote the capacity of eligible tribes throughout California to address the three objectives of the program.

1. Measuring progress in achieving the National Preparedness Guidelines.
2. Strengthening improvised explosive device attack deterrence, prevention, detection and protection capabilities.
3. Strengthening preparedness planning.

The program implementation will be represented by the Inter-Tribal Council of California (ITCC). This network will provide the initial communications matrix for information dissemination and the eventual completion of a communication system designed specifically to maintain the intent of the CTHSGP. For more information, please contact Denise M. Banker, 916-826-6927 or [denise.banker@ohs.ca.gov](mailto:denise.banker@ohs.ca.gov)

### **California's Changing Climate**

California has ambitious plans to cut greenhouse gas emissions, but the state also needs an integrated policy to prepare for and adapt to climate change. Some institutions, such as water agencies and electrical utilities, have already begun planning for change but other areas have yet to prepare effectively for the challenges of a changing California. To read more about these changes, go to:

[http://www.ppic.org/content/pubs/report/R\\_1108LBR.pdf](http://www.ppic.org/content/pubs/report/R_1108LBR.pdf)

### **California's Water: A Legislative Analysis Office Primer**

California's water delivery system is facing a series of challenges due in part to a combination of increasingly variable weather conditions, legal requirements, and system operation and conveyance constraints. These challenges affect water availability, reliability, and delivery. Recent public and private efforts have sought ways to address these challenges. These measures include proposals to increase water through groundwater storage, surface storage, infrastructure changes, and system operation improvements, among others. This report provides, through a "quick reference" document relying heavily on charts to present information, a snapshot of water in California. For more information, go to: [http://www.lao.ca.gov/2008/rsrc/water\\_primer/water\\_primer\\_102208.aspx](http://www.lao.ca.gov/2008/rsrc/water_primer/water_primer_102208.aspx)

The main components of this report are:

- Overview of California's Water Governance.
- Water Supply, Source, and Delivery. Demand and Use of Water.
- How Do We Finance Water Projects?
- What Drives the Cost of Water?
- Issues for Legislative Consideration

### **Native Non-Profit to Focus on Green Collar Careers**

This Web site provides a wealth of information on green technology, training resources, and projects in Indian Country. Additional resources include: nationwide listings of Native Chambers of Commerce, Urban Indian Centers, and Tribal Colleges as well as green Native businesses, green grants for tribes, green tribal news and links to other Native environmental organizations. See Native Workplace at [www.NativeWorkplace.com](http://www.NativeWorkplace.com). For more information contact Cristala Mussato-Allen, 512-462-9056, Native Workplace 4415 Garnett Ave. Suite #A Austin, TX 78745. [info@nativeworkplace.com](mailto:info@nativeworkplace.com)

### **Link to Tribal Training Web site**

The Tribal Training Web site contains listings of EPA sponsored training courses offered to Tribes under the Clean Water Act. The Web site contains links to important resources and tools to assist Tribes with the development and implementation of water quality programs. The site also contains links to self-paced trainings for both CWA and non-CWA training programs.

<http://www.epa.gov/water/tribaltraining/>

### **Northwest Sustainable Energy for Economic Development (SEED) Releases Northwest Tribal Energy Planning Guidebook**

With funding provided by the Bullitt Foundation, Northwest SEED just released a new tool to help Native American tribes develop a plan to achieve energy independence. Energy Planning: A Guide for Northwest Indian Tribes contains information and resources to help select and implement projects to conserve energy, generate clean renewable energy, and construct efficient and environmentally friendly buildings, and other energy-related community or business projects. For more information or to obtain a copy of the guide, contact Leslie Moynihan, 206-267-2215 or [leslie@nwseed.org](mailto:leslie@nwseed.org)

### **Emergency Preparedness**

A press release was issued on September 16 on EPA's emergency preparedness audio files available for download on-line at: <http://www.epa.gov/region09/disaster/> The files address environmental challenges that commonly arise in a disaster such as addressing gas leaks, safely returning home, and purifying contaminated drinking water supplies.

### **Toxics Release Inventory**

A peer-reviewed analysis of the Toxics Release Inventory and the impact of the EPA's Toxics Release Inventory Burden Reduction Rule, have been published and is available online at: <http://news.duke.edu/2008/06/TRIMiranda.html>. Supporting materials for the analysis, including an interactive Web application which provides access to results by EPA Region and state can be found at: <http://www.env.duke.edu/cehi/about/news/envjustice.htm>. For more information, contact Martha H. Keating, at 919-613-8736 or [martha.keating@duke.edu](mailto:martha.keating@duke.edu)

### **Improving Public Health and the Environment for Local Communities**

A new EPA Web site features dozens of projects that local communities can do to help make the air cleaner and healthier to breathe. The "Improving Air Quality in Your Community" Web site features activities for reducing both indoor and outdoor pollution, including diesel engine retrofit programs, improving air quality in local schools, and pollution prevention options for small businesses. These projects have a successful track record--they were previously put into action by state and local governments across the country. This site includes information about the costs to establish and maintain each project, and how local communities can apply for EPA grants to kick-start their activities. Contact: Cathy Milbourn, 202-564-4355 / [milbourn.cathy@epa.gov](mailto:milbourn.cathy@epa.gov) or go to: <http://www.epa.gov/air/community/>

### **Chemical Spills and Methamphetamine labs**

EPA is the Chair for the National Response Center (NRC)--"the sole national point of contact for reporting oil, chemical, radiological, biological, etiological discharges into the environment anywhere in the United States and its territories." To report a spill, contact 1-800-424-8802 or 1-202-267-2675. NRC is open a 24-hour, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year. For more information go to <http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/index.html>

### **Drinking Water Training Opportunities for Tribes and Tribal Operators**

A new Web site is available that provides a consolidated list of drinking water training opportunities that may be of interest to tribes and tribal operators during the upcoming months. This list organizes courses from many training providers by region, and it also includes a list of trainings that are available online. This list will be updated quarterly, so if you would like to highlight an upcoming training course on this list please send an email to [betanzo.elin@epa.gov](mailto:betanzo.elin@epa.gov). The Web site can be accessed at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/tribal.html>

### **Tribal Compliance Assistance Center – Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assistance**

EPA's web-based Tribal Compliance Assistance Center is now available to provide comprehensive compliance assistance and pollution prevention information for regulated activities in Indian Country. For more information, go to the following site: <http://www.epa.gov/tribalcompliance>. This center is designed to help tribal environmental professionals and facility owners and operators comply with

environmental regulations and get information on topics including waste management, air and water resources, drinking water, and public safety. From the Tribal Center, viewers can report a complaint to EPA, find out the compliance status of facilities in Indian Country, learn how to apply for federal grants, and locate EPA personnel who can answer your environmental compliance questions. If access to the Internet is limited, much of the Tribal Center's information is found in the *Profile of Tribal Government Operations* which can be ordered by calling 1-800-490-9198. All of EPA's compliance assistance centers are found at <http://www.assistancecenters.net>. If you have any questions about the Tribal Center or the *Profile of Tribal Government Operations*, contact Jonathan Binder at 202-564-2516, [binder.jonathan@epa.gov](mailto:binder.jonathan@epa.gov), or Catherine Tunis at (202) 564-0476, [tunis.catherine@epa.gov](mailto:tunis.catherine@epa.gov) or by mail: EPA, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Mail Code 2224A, Washington DC 20460.

#### **Tribal Compliance Assistance Notebook**

EPA's Tribal Schools Compliance Assistance Notebook provides quick access to many programs and resources available to help Tribal school districts and Tribal schools prevent and resolve environmental issues in schools. The Notebook presents information on complying with Federal laws and regulations and maintaining school facilities that are safe and healthy for students and staff. Topics include asbestos, chemical use and management, drinking water, pesticides, PCBs, lead-based paint, and more. The Notebook is available at <http://yosemite.epa.gov/r10/tribal.nsf/programs/tribal+schools>. The Tribal Schools Compliance Assistance Notebook is part of EPA's National Tribal Compliance Assurance Priority (<http://www.epa.gov/compliance/data/planning/priorities/tribal.html>).

#### **Professional Resources for Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Program Staff**

California Hazardous Materials Information Exchange list serve is used mainly by HHW professionals in California, but may be useful for those working outside of California as well. The list serve is also searchable by topic and date: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/hhwie/>

#### **America's Children and the Environment Web Site**

This Web site provides measures of environmental factors related to the health and well being of children in the United States. The Web site shows trends in environmental contaminant levels in air, water, food, and soil; concentrations of contaminants measured in the bodies of children and women; and childhood illnesses that may be influenced by exposure to environmental contaminants. Ultimately these measurements will help guide efforts to minimize environmental impacts on the nation's children and also will form discussions among policymakers and the public about how to improve federal data. The updated measures are available at: <http://www.epa.gov/envirohealth/children>

#### **OAR Development of a Proposed Mandatory Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Reporting Rule**

Under the FY2008 Consolidated Appropriations Act, Congress directed EPA to publish a mandatory greenhouse gas reporting rule, using the Agency's existing authority under the Clean Air Act. The rule will require mandatory reporting of greenhouse gases "above appropriate thresholds in all sectors of the economy." EPA is responsible for determining those thresholds, as well as the frequency of reporting. Congress requested EPA to include reporting of emissions "resulting from upstream productions and downstream sources," to the extent that the Agency deems appropriate. Tribes that own or operate large upstream or downstream facilities within their reservation boundaries may be impacted by this rule. EPA intends to propose a rule by September 2008 and a final rule by June 2009. For more information contact Katherine Sibold, 202-343-280 or [sibold.katherine@epa.gov](mailto:sibold.katherine@epa.gov)

## **Employment Opportunities**

#### **Senior Environmental Specialist**

The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community has an opening for a senior environmental specialist in their Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Department. Go to the following Web site: [http://srpmicjobs.jobing.com/job\\_details2.asp?JobID=1864757](http://srpmicjobs.jobing.com/job_details2.asp?JobID=1864757) or call Ondrea S. Barber, 480-362-7625; Cell: 480-452-8502; 480-62-5861 or email: [Ondrea.Barber@srpmic-nsn.gov](mailto:Ondrea.Barber@srpmic-nsn.gov).

**Principals for Student Success (PSS)**

Penn State's College of Education has received funding in excess of \$960,000 to offer new graduate fellowships to American Indian and Alaska Native students who are interested in becoming school principals. This program allows participants to earn a master's degree in Educational Leadership with a "principalship" certification. The primary purpose is to prepare American Indian and Alaskan Natives, over a four-year period, to be effective school principals in schools that serve significant numbers of Indian students. Applications are now being accepted for the fall 2009 semester. The fellowships include a monthly stipend of \$1,675, as well as allowances for dependency support, tuition, textbooks, relocation, and health insurance. For more information, contact Dr. John Tippeconnic, American Indian Leadership Program, Suite 300 Rackley Building, University Park, Pa. 16802 phone 814-863-1626; e-mail [jwt7@psu.edu](mailto:jwt7@psu.edu) or Dr. Susan Faircloth at 814-863-3775; e-mail [scf2@psu.edu](mailto:scf2@psu.edu). Also go to <http://www.nativephilanthropy.org/news.html>

**Environmental Database Specialist, Pyramid Lake Environmental Department, Nixon, NV**

Performs highly technical and administrative duties in the planning, development and management of databases and Web site of the Environmental program. Takes the lead role in data management, data quality assurance/quality control, data entry, and statistical analysis to be used for overall watershed planning and environmental documents. Requires experience and understanding in many programming languages, including but not limited to SQL, HTML, and XML. This is a full time position with a salary range of \$32,905.60 - 34,569.60 per annum DOE (plus 6% COLA), EXEMPT. This position is opened until filled. For more information contact PLPT Human Resources office at 775-574-1000 or the Web site: <http://www.plpt.nsn.us/hr/index.html>

**Pesticide Control Specialist - Ak-Chin Indian Community, Maricopa, AZ**

Under general supervision of the Environmental Protection Director and direct supervision of the Environmental Programs Manager, the Pesticide Control Specialist will be responsible for monitoring all aspects of pesticide usage on the Ak-Chin Indian Community to protect residents, pesticide handlers, pesticide applicators, agricultural workers and the environment. The Pesticide Control Specialist will also assist with program development and implementation of the Pesticide Control Program. This is a full-time position with benefits. For more information, log on to [www.ak-chin.nsn.us](http://www.ak-chin.nsn.us) or call Salinda Lopez, 520-568-1054.

**Two Senior Environmental Specialist and Two Environmental Engineer positions**

The Air Quality Program (AQP) with the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency is aggressively seeking qualified applications for two Senior Environmental Specialist positions, and two Environmental Engineer positions. AQP is a pollution monitoring and regulatory authority with Treatment as State (TAS) status, and is the first Indian Tribe to attain delegated authority to administer the Clean Air Act (CAA), Part 71 Operating Permit Program (Title V – Permits). These positions will be opened until filled. To complete an application, go to [www.nndpm.navajo.org](http://www.nndpm.navajo.org) or mail completed application to the Navajo Nation Department of Personnel Management, P. O. Box 7080, Window Rock, AZ 86515. For more information, contact Charlene Nelson at 928-729-4247 or by email at [charlenenelson@navajo.org](mailto:charlenenelson@navajo.org).

**Environmental Program Specialist (EPS), Yurok Tribe**

This position is entirely grant funded and grant writing is an important and necessary function. The EPS will be assigned to the following environmental areas: water quality and hydrology monitoring, assessment and reporting, environmental education, data management, and/or administration. This is a full time permanent position with the benefits: For job description and more information log onto [www.yuroktribe.org](http://www.yuroktribe.org) or call 707-482-1350 ext. 376

## Tribal outreach, review and comment



### **Creative Energy Project**

Johnson Controls and the National Energy Foundation invite students K-12 to enter the Igniting Creative Energy competition, a program designed to encourage students to learn more about energy and the environment. Student entries should demonstrate an understanding of what an individual, family, or group can do in their home, school, or community to conserve energy and help the environment. Students may express their ideas in any creative format such as science projects, recent service projects, essays, stories, artwork, photographs, music, videos, web-based applications, multimedia projects, etc. Grand prize winners will receive a hosted trip to Washington D.C. and share their proposal with government and energy leaders during the 20th Annual Energy Efficiency Forum in June at the National Press Club. Responses are due March 13. For more information, go to:

<http://www.ignitingcreativeenergy.org/>.

### **Tribal Pesticide Issues**

Do you have questions about pesticides that are being used on your reservation for agriculture or to control pests in and around homes? Are pesticides being sold in your community? Do you think that water or other resources are being impacted by pesticide use? Are there other pesticide issues on your reservation that concern you? If you have these or other questions about pesticides, contact Pam Cooper, Manager, Region 9 Pesticides Office at 415-947-4217 or e-mail [cooper.pam@epa.gov](mailto:cooper.pam@epa.gov).

### **Free Harvard Education for Students from Low-Income Families**

Harvard University announced that undergraduate students from low-income families will pay no tuition. In making the announcement, Harvard's president Lawrence H. Summers said, "When only ten percent of the students in elite higher education come from families in the lower half of the income distribution, we are not doing enough". If you know of a family earning less than \$60,000 a year with an honor student graduating from high school soon, Harvard University wants to pay the tuition. To find out more about Harvard offering free tuition for families making less than \$60,000 a year, visit Harvard's financial aid Web site at: <http://www.fao.fas.harvard.edu/>

### **The Sierra Nevada Adaptive Management Project (SNAMP)**

SNAMP is an effort to gather independent scientific data on the effects of forest thinning for fire protection as done by the US Forest Service. There are two study sites; a southern one near Oakhurst off Hwy 41, and a northern one near Tahoe. The study focuses specifically on the ongoing conflicts over forest fuels management in the Sierra Nevada National Forests and the controversial Record of Decision 2004 (ROD) that establishes the current legal boundaries for management prescriptions in the Sierra Nevada's. Scientists from the University of California will take baseline measurements before thinning treatments and after to quantify any adverse effects. The data will be used to advise and hopefully improve the process in the future. There will be annual meetings and regular Integration Team meetings and the public will be encouraged to attend. A mailing list and a Web site at <http://snamp.cnr.berkeley.edu> will have all of SNAMP's activities. For more information, contact Anne Lombardo at 209-966-2417 or email [amlombardo@ucdavis.edu](mailto:amlombardo@ucdavis.edu).

### **Green Job/Green Economy Movement**

Native Workplace, Navajo Green Economy Coalition and Honor the Earth are joining forces to invite tribal members around the nation to start a green information group in their own communities. The purpose of this alliance is to ensure that green career education will reach everyone in Indian country and that all tribal members feel included and their voices are represented. The National Native Green Alliance will be an informal network, designed to support emerging groups and promote green business development by sharing information and connections. Events will be promoted throughout the network. Contact information is as follows:

C. Allen: Native Workplace, [www.NativeWorkplace.com](http://www.NativeWorkplace.com), [info@nativeworkplace.com](mailto:info@nativeworkplace.com), 512-462-9056

Anna Marie Rondon: Navajo Green Economy Coalition, [annarondon@msn.com](mailto:annarondon@msn.com), 505-726-9392

Nellis Kennedy: Honor the Earth [nellis@honorearth.org](mailto:nellis@honorearth.org) 218-375-3200

### **Publication from the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation**

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation recently issued a new publication, entitled *Consultation with Indian Tribes in the Section 106 Process: A Handbook*. This handbook is a guide to the federal responsibility for tribal consultation in the National Historic Preservation Act - Section 106 review process; it can be accessed at <http://www.achp.gov/regs-tribes2008.pdf>. Feel free share this handbook. For more information contact Jaime Loichinger, 202-564-0276.

### **Radon Gas/Indoor Space**

EPA has released a series of public service announcements (PSAs) reminding families that a radon-resistant home is a greener and healthier home. Radon is a colorless, odorless radioactive gas that could be present in dangerous levels in the home and is the No. 1 cause of lung cancer in non-smokers. It is released from rock or soil, seeps into homes through foundation cracks, and can reach harmful levels if trapped indoors. EPA estimates that one in 15 homes will have elevated radon levels. It is simple and affordable to reduce radon risks in the home. If a home tests high, a qualified radon professional can install a mitigation system to lower the radon level. For information on how to get your home tested or to build your new home so it is radon resistant, visit: <http://www.epa.gov/radon> or call 1-800-SOS-RADON (767-7236). PSAs are available in English and Spanish at <http://www.epa.gov/radon/rnpsa.html>.

### **Department of Energy (DOE)**

DOE is seeking information from Tribes and other parties interested in the deployment of renewable energy in Indian Country in the contiguous 48 States. The information will be used by DOE for internal planning and decision making purposes relative to future activities under DOE's Tribal Energy Program. Please send your response (one attachment only) via email, with the title, "RFI Response" to [tribal@go.doe.gov](mailto:tribal@go.doe.gov). Your response should be submitted in Microsoft Word or PDF as an email attachment to the address above and received no later than 8:00 PM EDT, February 28. Please include contact name(s), phone number(s), email addresses, organization name, address, and type of business or institution. Responses will not be confidential.

### **Nominees Sought for Environmental Youth Awards**

Since 1971, EPA has sponsored the President's Environmental Youth Awards. The program recognizes young people across America for projects that demonstrate their commitment to the environment. Young people in all 50 states and the U.S. territories are invited to participate in this program. <http://www.saipantribune.com/newsstory.aspx?cat=16&newsID=85841>

### **Eliminating Childhood Lead Poisoning and Using Lead Safe Work Practices**

Although lead-based paint was banned by the Federal Government 30 years ago, homes and child-occupied facilities built before then may contain lead-based paint and potential lead hazards. Common renovation activities like sanding, cutting, and demolition can create hazardous lead dust and lead chips by disturbing lead-based paint, harming both children and adults. Beginning in April 2010, commercial contractors performing renovation, repair and painting projects that disturb lead-based paint in homes, child care facilities, and schools built before 1978 must be certified and follow specific work practices to prevent lead contamination. EPA has a new brochure with lead hazard information for families, child care providers and schools. *Renovate Right: Important Lead Hazard Information for Families, Child Care Providers, and Schools* (PDF) (20 pp, 3.3MB). Additionally, EPA recently issued program authorization guidance detailing how Tribes can apply for program implementation of the new regulatory requirement. This guidance document has been developed to assist Federally-recognized Indian Tribes seeking authorization of Lead-Based Paint Renovation Programs pursuant to 40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 745, Subpart E and Section 404 of the Federal Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). For information, contact Dave Tomsovic, US EPA Toxics Office, 415-972-3858 or [tomsovic.david@epa.gov](mailto:tomsovic.david@epa.gov).

## **Procedures for Accessing EPA Resources for Emergency Responses to Hazards Materials Incidents on Tribal or Federal Lands in AZ**

Call 9-1-1 first. Then notify the National Response Center at 1 800-424-8802. A tribe can also notify Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) at 602-390-7894 or 602-771-2330. If it is a transportation-related spill, call 602-223-2212 at the Arizona Department of Public Safety. In addition, local jurisdictions need to be notified of the incident. If ADEQ is unable to respond to a hazardous materials incident on tribal and federal lands, contact the National Response Center at 800-424-8802, and ask for the EPA Region 9 Duty Officer. EPA has On-Scene Coordinators placed in San Francisco, and Los Angeles, CA, Carson City, NV and Phoenix, AZ who can provide timely response to a hazardous materials incident.

## **Web sites for tribal programs and other federal programs**

<http://www.epa.gov/region09/funding/pdfs/tribal-gap/GAP-OnlineTribalUserGuide.pdf>

[http://iaspub.epa.gov/GAP\\_Online/](http://iaspub.epa.gov/GAP_Online/)

[www.energysavers.gov](http://www.energysavers.gov)

<http://www.communityhealthstudies.com>

<http://www.nijc.org/pdfs/AIR.PDF>

<http://www.nijc.org/pdfs/SOLIDWAS.PDF>

<http://www.nijc.org/pdfs/WATER.PDF>

<http://www.nijc.org/pdfs/DRWATER.PDF>

<http://www.epa.gov/region09/waste/ust/leaking-tanks-indian/>

<http://www.epa.gov/tribalportal/>

<http://www.epa.gov/oswer/tribal> .

<http://www.epa.gov/region09/indian/rtoc.html#leads>

<http://www.epa.gov/region9/indian/>

<http://www.epa.gov/region09/funding/index.html>

<http://www.epa.gov/region09/indian/res.html>

<http://www.epa.gov/region09/waste/brown/grants.html>

<http://www.epa.gov/ow/waterplan/tribal/index.html>

<http://www.epa.gov/region9/indian/pdf/gap-water-activities-factsheet.pdf>

<http://www.epa.gov/compliance/resources/newsletters/assistance/index.html>

<http://www.epa.gov/indian/new.htm>

<http://www.epa.gov/smokefree>

<http://www.epa.gov/radon/index.html>

<http://www.wihresourcegroup.com/>

<http://www.doi.gov/bia>

<http://www.narf.org/nill/triballaw/index.htm>

<http://www.stopwaste.org/home/index.asp>

<http://www.conservatree.com/index.shtml>

<http://soils.usda.gov/survey>

<http://www.eere.energy.gov/tribalenergy/projects.cfm>